



PATENT  
Our Docket: P-TB 4927

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of  
    , Sem et al.  
Serial No.: Not yet assigned  
Filed: Herewith  
For: NMR-SOLVE METHOD FOR  
    RAPID IDENTIFICATION  
    OF BI-LIGAND DRUG  
    CANDIDATES

Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Examiner: Not yet assigned

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ADDRESSED TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, ATTENTION  
BOX PATENT APPLICATION, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231.

ATTN: Box Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

**PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL**

The Applicant hereby petitions to expedite this application by making it special under 37 C.F.R. § 1.102, thereby advancing examination of the application out of turn.

The Applicant claims special status for this application because it relates to biotechnology and was filed by a small entity.

(A) Small entity status has been established. A copy of the Small Entity Statement filed on June 4, 1999, is attached as Exhibit A.

(B) The subject of the application represents a significant portion of the applicant's intellectual property portfolio and on-going licensing strategy, and is therefore a major asset of the applicant.

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(C) The development of the field of drug discovery will be significantly impaired if examination of the application is delayed. Unlike previous methods for understanding enzyme-ligand interactions, which can take years to map and analyze the complete structure of enzyme-ligand complexes, the method of the invention enables researchers to rapidly identify ligands that bind to enzymes of interest and to generate libraries of drug candidates that are optimized for enzyme families. Thus, expediting examination of this application will speed the drug discovery process.

For the Examiner's convenience in examining this application, the Applicant is submitting a copy of the International Search Report and Written Opinion from the corresponding PCT application as Exhibits B and C.

A check in the amount of \$1,207.00 is enclosed, \$777.00 of which covers the basic filing fee, \$300.00 of which covers the fee for early publication as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.18(d) and \$130.00 of which covers the petition fee as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.102(d). The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 03-0370 for any fee associated with this Petition. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed for this purpose.

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Please direct any questions to the undersigned attorney  
or Cathryn Campbell.

Respectfully submitted,

August 15, 2001  
Date

  
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